

Memorandum

Date: September 22, 1999

To: Policy Group

From: Lester A. Snow
Executive Director



Subject: Amendments to Ecosystem Restoration Projects

Summary

On September 14, 1999, the Contract Amendment Subcommittee of the Ecosystem Roundtable and the CALFED agency liaisons met in a public meeting to discuss seven projects that had requested amendments. Consistent with established policy (see attachment) amendments of minor budget, scope, or schedule change (Level 1 and 2) are presented to the Policy Group for information, and amendments of sufficient change (Level 3) require consideration and recommendation by the Policy Group.

Detailed Discussion

Four Level 1 project amendments were reviewed by the appropriate contracting agency staff, and after consultation with CALFED staff, were found reasonable and were approved. They are presented here for information.

One Level 2 amendment was reviewed by the Amendment Subcommittee. One Level 2 amendment request, *Stone Lakes NWR Land Acquisition*, was withdrawn by the Fish and Wildlife Service. The Level 2 project amendment for *Evaluation of Increasing Tagging Levels for Chinook Salmon and Steelhead and a Demonstration Project on Mass Marking* was deferred without prejudice to obtain additional review. It is presented here for information.

One Level 3 project amendment was reviewed by the Amendment Subcommittee. The proposed Level 3 amendment is for *Tuolumne River Setback Levees and Channel Restoration -- 7\11 Segment (98-F06 and 97-M09)*. In December 1997, CALFED approved \$2,801,000 for restoration of a portion of the Mining Reach along the Tuolumne River. In addition, CALFED approved \$655,000 for the Fish and Wildlife Service to relieve a shortfall in the Restoration Fund under the CVPIA. Other funding comes from

CALFED Agencies

California The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board
Department of Food and Agriculture

Federal Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Geological Survey
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Forest Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service
Western Area Power Administration

AFRP (\$3,382,000) and Turlock Irrigation District (\$50,000). This project restores 2.6 miles of spawning habitat for fall run chinook salmon. Turlock Irrigation District is requesting a change in scope to delete an emergency dike repair and accommodate environmental compliance requirements, monitoring requirements, conservation easements, and design changes in response to regulatory requirements. These changes in scope have increased the cost. In addition, the cost of materials has increased. Turlock Irrigation District, in response to direction from the Contracting Agencies, has successfully reviewed their design to reduce the cost increase by nearly 1.2 million dollars. However, the net increase is \$707,000. Turlock Irrigation District is also requesting authority to negotiate a sole source contract with the gravel operator currently operating on the property (711 Materials).

Action

The Level 1 and 2 amendments are presented to the Policy Group for information. Policy Group is asked to concur with the Ecosystem Roundtable Subcommittee recommendation for approval of the Level 3 amendment, with the provision that the Policy Group explore the availability of CVPIA AFRP funds to support half of the increase. In the event the CVPIA funds are unavailable, then the Amendment Subcommittee recommends approval of the full amount.

Attachment